



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVB02000.L51010000.ER0000.LVRWF2108090.21X; N-100223

MO#4500163137]

### Notice of Segregation of Public Land for the Esmeralda Solar Projects, Esmeralda County, Nevada

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of segregation.

**SUMMARY:** Through this notice the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is segregating public lands included in seven (7) rights-of-way applications for the Leeward Esmeralda Renewable Energy, Connect Gen Smoky Valley, Arevia Gold Dust, Invenergy Nivloc, NextEra Esmeralda Energy Center, Red Ridge 1, and Red Ridge 2 Solar Energy Projects, from appropriation under the public land laws, including the Mining Law, but not the Mineral Leasing or Material Sales Acts, for a period of two (2) years from the date of publication of this notice, subject to valid existing rights. This segregation is to allow for the orderly administration of the public lands to facilitate consideration of development of renewable energy resources. The public lands segregated by this notice total 118,630.90 acres.

**DATES:** This segregation for the lands identified in this notice is effective on [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list, send requests to: Perry B. Wickham, Field Manager, at telephone (775) 482-7801; address P.O. Box 911, 1553 S. Main Street, Tonopah, NV 89049 or email [pwickham@blm.gov](mailto:pwickham@blm.gov). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD,

or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Regulations found at 43 CFR 2091.3-1(e) and 43 CFR 2804.25(f) allow the BLM to temporarily segregate public lands within a right-of-way application area for solar energy development from the operation of the public land laws, including the Mining Law, by publication of a *Federal Register* notice. The BLM uses this temporary segregation authority to preserve its ability to approve, approve with modifications, or deny proposed rights-of-way, and to facilitate the orderly administration of the public lands. This temporary segregation is subject to valid existing rights, including existing mining claims located before this segregation notice. Licenses, permits, cooperative agreements, or discretionary land use authorizations of a temporary nature which would not impact lands identified in this notice may be allowed with the approval of an authorized officer of the BLM during the segregation period. The lands segregated under this notice are legally described as follows:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 1 N., R. 37 E.,

secs. 1 thru 5 and secs. 8 thru 16, unsurveyed;

sec. 21, unsurveyed;

sec. 22, partly unsurveyed, excepting M.S. No. 4895;

secs. 23 thru 26, unsurveyed;

sec. 27, partly unsurveyed, excepting M.S. No. 4895;

secs. 35 and 36, unsurveyed.

T. 2 N., R. 37 E.,

secs. 23 thru 26;

sec. 32, S1/2NE1/4, W1/2, and SE1/4;

sec. 33, W1/2 and SE1/4;

secs. 34 thru 36.

Tps. 1 and 2 N., R. 38 E., unsurveyed.

T. 1 N., R. 38 1/2 E.,

secs. 4 thru 9 and secs. 16 thru 19, unsurveyed.

T. 2 N., R. 38 1/2 E., unsurveyed.

T. 2 N., R. 39 E.,

secs. 2 thru 10, unsurveyed;

secs. 11 and 14, partly unsurveyed, excepting M.S. No. 2126 and M.S. No. 2135;

secs. 15 thru 22 and secs. 28 thru 31, unsurveyed.

T. 1 S., R. 38 E.,

secs. 1 thru 16 and sec. 24.

T. 1 S., R. 39 E.,

secs. 3 thru 10 and secs. 15 thru 22.

The area described contains 118,630.90 acres, according to the official plats of the surveys and protraction diagrams on file with the BLM.

As provided in the regulations, the segregation of lands in this notice will not exceed 2-years from the date of publication unless extended for an additional 2-years through publication of a new notice in the *Federal Register*. The segregation period will terminate and the land will automatically reopen to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, at the earliest of the following dates: upon issuance of a decision by the authorized officer granting, granting with modifications, or denying the applications for rights-of-way; without further administrative action at the end of the segregation provided for in the *Federal Register* notice initiating the segregation; or upon publication of a *Federal Register* notice terminating the segregation.

Upon termination of the segregation of these lands, all lands subject to this segregation would automatically reopen to appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws.

AUTHORITY: 43 CFR 2091.3-1(e) and 43 CFR 2804.25(f)

**Jonah Blustain,**

*Field Manager,*

*Tonopah Field Office (Acting).*

[FR Doc. 2022-16064 Filed: 7/26/2022 8:45 am; Publication Date: 7/27/2022]